Slave Trade

The Undersigned, His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, has to acquaint the Chevalier de Mattos, Chargé d'Affaires of His Majesty the Emperor of Brazil, that His Majesty's Government have had under consideration the note which was addressed on the 4th of September 1830, to His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State, by the Chevalier de Mattos, adducing arguments in support of a claim for indemnification in favor of the owners of the Vessels "Minerva", "Cerqueira", and "Creola", on account

to The Chevalier de Mattos.—

account of their having been detained for illegal Slave Trade. —

It appears on a reference to former papers on the subject, that in the year 1828. the Viscount d'Itabayana addressed a note to the Earl of Aberdeen, claiming from His Majesty's Government, upon the ground therein stated, indemnity for the owners of those three vessels, for the losses occasioned by their seizure and detention, and that the Secretary of State replied to this note, by a letter dated the 10th of March 1829, in which after adverting to the general circumstances which were the same in each case, his Lordship stated the reasons upon which "he found "himself bound to declare, that he could

"not

"not accede to the demand which was made "for compensation."—

The arguments now adduced by the Chevalier de Mattos appear to be the same in substance and effect as those formerly urged by the Viscount d'Itabayana: and the Undersigned begs to refer the Chevalier de Mattos to the former correspondence upon this subject, acquainting him at the same time, that, after a reconsideration of the case, His Majesty's Government do not see any reason to differ from the opinion above recorded of His Majesty's Secretary of State.—

The Undersigned avails himself of this opportunity to express to the Chevalier de Mattos the assurances of his distinguished

distinguished consideration. –

Palmerston

Foreign Office;

December 10th, 1830.